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| (21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/07939 (22) International Filing Date: 23 April 1998 (23.04.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/870,560 6 June 1997 (06.06.97) US (71) Applicant: ECOSMART TECHNOLOGIES, INC. [US/US]; Suite F-3, 555 Sun Valley Drive, Roswell, GA 30076 (US). (72) Inventors: BESSETTE, Steven, M.; 4135 Bellflower Drive, Alpharetta, GA 30202 (US). BEIGLER, Myron, A.; 7350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404 (US). (74) Agent: GAMSON, Robert, M.; Bloom & Kreten, Suite 905, 401 Washington Avenue, Towson, MD 21204 (US). | | (81) Designated States: AL, AU, BA, BB, BG, BR, CA, CN, CU, CZ, EE, GE, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KG, KP, KR, LC, LK, LR, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, SG, SI, SK, SL, TR, TT, UA, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>With amended claims and statement.</i> |
| (54) Title: NON-HAZARDOUS PEST CONTROL (57) Abstract A pesticide and a method of using the pesticide to kill invertebrates, especially insects, arachnids and larvae. The method is to prepare a mixture of a carrier with the pesticide and apply the mixture to the insects, arachnids and larvae and their habitat. The pesticide is a neurotransmitter affector utilizing octopamine receptor sites in the insects, arachnids and larvae. The affector agent is a chemical having a six-membered carbon ring having substituted thereon at least one oxygenated functional group. The affector agent is a chemical component of a plant essential oil and is naturally occurring. Deposition of the chemicals of the present invention on a surface provides residual toxicity for up to 30 days. Various carriers for the affector agent are disclosed. The chemicals of the present invention deter feeding of insects, arachnids and larvae and also retard growth of the larvae of the insects and arachnids. | | |

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NON-HAZARDOUS PEST CONTROL

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a method of controlling pests and more particularly to a method of preparing and applying a pesticide which affects octopamine receptor sites insects,
5 arachnids and larvae.

Many chemicals and mixtures have been studied for pesticidal activity for many years with a goal of obtaining a product which is selective for invertebrates such as insects, arachnids and larvae thereof and has little or no toxicity to vertebrates such as mammals, fish, fowl and other species and does not otherwise persist in and damage the environment. Most products of
10 which the applicants are aware and which have sufficient pesticidal activity to be of commercial significance, also have toxic or deleterious effects on mammals, fish, fowl or other species which are not the target of the product. For example, organophosphorus compounds and carbamates inhibit the activity of acetylcholinesterase in insects as well as in all classes of animals. Chlordimeform and related formamidines are known to act on octopamine receptors of insects
15 but have been removed from the market because of cardiotoxic potential in vertebrates and carcinogenicity in animals and a varied effect on different insects. Also, very high doses are required to be toxic for certain insect species.

It is postulated that amidine compounds affect the octopamine sensitive adenylate cyclase present in insects [Nathanson et al, Mol. Pharmacol 20:68-75 (1981) and Nathanson, Mol.
20 Pharmacol 28: 254-268 (1985)]. Another study was conducted on octopamine uptake and metabolism in the insect nervous system [Wierenga et al, Neurochem 54, 479-489 (1990)]. These studies were directed at nitrogen containing compounds which mimic the octopamine structure.

Insecticides such as trioxabicyclooctanes, dithianes, silatranes, lindane, toxaphen,
25 cyclodienes and picrotoxin act on the GABA (gamma amino butyric acid) receptor. However, these products also affect mammals, birds, fish and other species.

There is a need for a pesticide which targets only insects, arachnids and their larvae and does not produce unwanted and harmful affects on other species.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

30 It is a primary object of the present invention to provide a method of preparing and applying a pesticide which kills invertebrates, especially insects, arachnids and their larvae and has no harmful effects on other species including mammals, fish and fowl.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a method of preparing and applying a pesticide which exerts its pesticidal properties through the octopamine receptor site in insects, arachnids and their larvae and other invertebrates.

It is still another object of the present invention to provide a method of preparing and
5 applying a pesticide at relatively low concentrations which will be effective over a comparatively long period of time such as at least 24 hours.

In accordance with the teachings of the present invention, there is disclosed a method of killing insects and arachnids and larvae thereof. The steps include preparing a mixture of a carrier with an affector agent which interferes with the neurotransmitters of the octopamine
10 receptor site in insects, arachnids and their larvae and applying the mixture to insects, arachnids, larvae and their habitat. The affector agent interacts with octopamine receptor sites in the insects, arachnids and larvae and interferes with neurotransmission in the invertebrate but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl. The agent is a chemical having the structure of a six member carbon ring, the carbon ring having substituted thereon at least one oxygenated functional group.

15 There is further disclosed a method of killing insects and arachnids and larvae thereof. A blend of cinnamic alcohol, eugenol and alpha terpineol is prepared. The blend is mixed with a carrier to produce a uniform mixture. The mixture is applied to insects and arachnids and larvae and their habitat. The blend interacts with octopamine receptor sites in the invertebrate and interferes with neurotransmission in the invertebrate but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl.

20 In another aspect, there is disclosed a pesticide which has an affector agent having a six member carbon ring. The carbon ring has substituted thereon at least one oxygenated functional group. The affector agent affects the octopamine receptor site in invertebrates including insects, arachnids and their larvae. The affector agent is intimately mixed with a carrier. Exposure of insects, arachnids and their larvae to the affector agent produces a disruption of the octopamine
25 receptor site in the invertebrates to interfere with neurotransmission in the invertebrate and the death of the exposed invertebrate.

Further disclosed is a method of killing insects, arachnids, and larvae. A mixture is prepared of a chemical derived from a plant essential oil with a carrier. The chemical has at least one oxygenated functional group therein. receptor site inhibitory activity. The chemical has
30 octopamine The mixture is applied to insects, arachnids, larvae and their habitat. The chemical interacts with an octopamine receptor site in the insects, arachnids and larvae and interferes with neurotransmission in the insects, arachnids and larvae thereof but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl.

In another aspect there is disclosed a method of controlling insects, arachnids and their larvae. An emulsion is prepared of an affector agent which disrupts neurotransmission at the octopamine receptor site in insects, arachnids and their larvae. The mixture is applied to insects, arachnids, larvae and their habitat. The agent interacts with octopamine receptor sites in the insects, arachnids and larvae and deters the feeding of the insects, arachnids and larvae but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl.

In yet another aspect there is disclosed a method of controlling insects, arachnids and larvae. An affector agent mixed with a carrier is applied to larvae of the insects and arachnids and their habitat. The affector agent retards the growth of the larvae. The affector agent interacts with octopamine receptor sites in the larvae of the insects and arachnids and interferes with neurotransmission in the larvae but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl. The affector agent is a naturally occurring organic chemical having at least six (6) carbon atoms.

In addition, there is disclosed a method of killing insects, arachnids and larvae thereof. A mixture is prepared of a carrier and a naturally occurring organic chemical having at least six carbon atoms. The chemical has octopamine receptor site inhibitory activity. The mixture is applied to insects and arachnids and larvae thereof and their habitat. The chemical interacts with an octopamine receptor site in the insects and arachnids and larvae thereof and interferes with neurotransmission in the insects, arachnids and larvae thereof but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl.

These and other objects of the present invention will become apparent from a reading of the following specification, taken in conjunction with the enclosed drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a graph showing the effect of the 3-B mixture of the present invention on the intracellular concentration of $[Ca^{2+}]$ in neuronal cells.

FIG. 2 is a chart showing the contraction of cockroach leg muscles induced by electrical stimulation when the 3-B mixture of the present invention is injected into the thorax of a live cockroach.

FIG. 3 is a chart showing the contraction of cockroach leg muscles in an isolated leg induced by electrical stimulation when the 3-B mixture of the present invention is applied to the isolated leg.

FIG. 4 is a chart showing the test of FIG. 2 using acetone as a control without the 3-B mixture.

FIG. 5 is a chart showing the test of FIG. 3 using acetone as a control without the 3-B mixture.

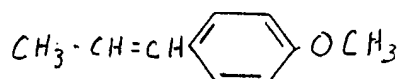
FIG. 6 is a series of charts showing transmission of signals from the mechanoreceptors of the cerci after application of the 3-B mixture and a control to the abdominal nerve of the cockroach.

FIG. 7 is a chart showing feeding damage to cabbage plant leaf discs with the 3-B mixture as compared to a control.

DESCRIPTION

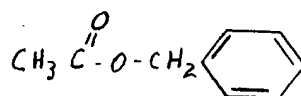
Physiological activity to invertebrate insects, arachnids and their larvae are produced by the chemicals of the present invention and by mixtures of these chemicals. The following chemicals having a six member carbon ring and having substituted thereon at least one oxygenated functional group are representative of the chemicals of the present invention but these are not to be considered as being the totality of chemicals and are not a limitation.

trans-anethole

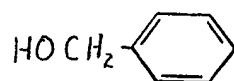


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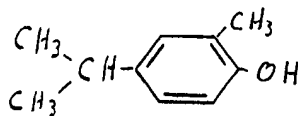
benzyl acetate



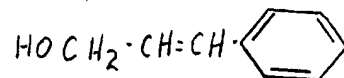
benzyl alcohol



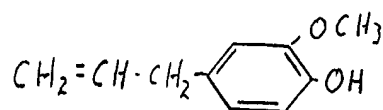
carvacrol



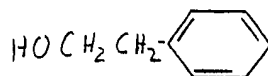
cinnamic alcohol



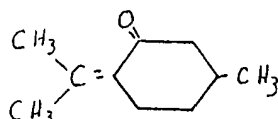
eugenol



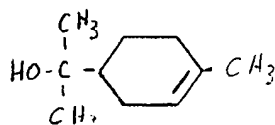
phenyl ethyl alcohol



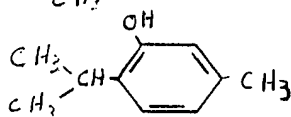
pulegone



alpha-terpineol

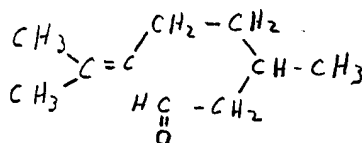


thymol



- 5 The above-listed materials are all components of plant essential oils. A further plant essential oil which is a chemical of the present invention is

citronellal



Anethole, carvacrol, citronellal, eugenol, D-pulegone, alpha-terpineol and thymol are all monoterpenes each having ten (10) carbon atoms therein.

- 10 The present invention is not limited to the chemicals listed herein.

All of the chemicals of the present invention are naturally occurring organic chemicals which are devoid of halogens. Further, several of the chemicals of the present invention are considered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to be safe for humans and exempted from registration. Thus, these chemicals do not require prior approval or registration with the EPA. Some of these chemicals have been added to prior art insecticides as attractants and repellents. However, there have been no reports of these chemicals having toxic pesticidal activity at the concentrations disclosed in the present invention.

- 15 All of the chemicals of the present invention act as agonists or antagonists on the octopamine receptor site in insects, arachnids and their larvae and, consequently, produce physiological effects in exposed invertebrates. The chemicals of the present invention are considered to be effector agents. Exposure to reduced concentrations of the chemicals or
- 20

exposure for brief times affect the feeding habits of the exposed insects, arachnids and larvae. This is important in those invertebrates which feed on vegetation, since there is reduced damage to plants by invertebrates which have received sublethal concentrations of the chemicals of the present invention. Also, the insects, arachnids or larvae which survive exposure to the chemicals of the present invention are shown to be stunted in growth.

Alpha-terpineol, eugenol and cinnamic alcohol were dissolved in acetone and designated as sample 3B. The range of weight percentages of the components of the blend are alpha-terpineol 10%-50%, eugenol 10%-50% and cinnamic alcohol 20%-35%. The preferred blend has equal parts by weight of each of the components. Male and female American cockroaches were injected with 3B into the abdomen. Overt signs of toxicity were observed at 1 mg/roach in 2 μ l of acetone. At lower doses no symptoms were observed. By this approach, 2 out of 6 died within 30 minutes. For those surviving, some showed locomotive difficulties. No hyperactivity was observed, even in those that died quickly. In some cases, (2/6) treated insects died after 2 to 3 days.

None of the American cockroaches died when they were treated through topical application prior to 24 hours. A 40% (4/10) mortality was observed 24 hours after treatment and this effect was time dependent. After 72 hours, 100% died. Control insects receiving 2 μ l of only acetone through injection showed no ill effects (Table 1).

Table 1: Time course effect of 3-B (1 mg/insect) on American cockroaches treated by topical application.

| <u>Time (hr.)</u> | <u>Mortality-3B</u> | <u>Mortality-Control</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 24 | 4/10 | 0 |
| 48 | 6/10 | 0 |
| 72 | 10/10 | 0 |

The data from the above study suggests that the action of 3B depends on the site of application, i.e., abdominal injection vs. topical application for the whole body.

3B was applied to different areas of the insect. When given to the ventral sternum region (at the base of the hind legs) of the American cockroach, 3B was most toxic at 125 μ g/insect. In that case, overt toxic signs were observed within 10 minutes. A lethal dose of 250-500 μ g/insect was injected and the insects died within 30 minutes (Table 2).

Table 2: Time-course and dose-response of 3B on American cockroaches treated by injection through the ventral stenum.

| 5 | Time (hrs.) | Mortality | | | | |
|----|----------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| | | <u>Test Doses</u> | | | <u>µg/insect</u> | |
| | | <u>50</u> | <u>100</u> | <u>125</u> | <u>250</u> | <u>500</u> |
| | 0.5 | 0 | 2/10 | 6/10 | 10/10 | 10/10 |
| | 1.0 | 2/10 | 3/10 | 7/10 | - | - |
| | 1.5 | 5/10 | 7/10 | 9/10 | - | - |
| 10 | 2.0 | 5/10 | 9/10 | 10/10 | - | - |
| | 3.0 | 6/10 | 9/10 | - | - | - |
| | 5.0 | 8/10 | 10/10 | - | - | - |
| | 24.0 | 10/10 | - | - | - | - |

*No mortality was found in insects treated exactly in the same manner with equal volume of acetone (vehicle) alone as control.

In the latter case of injection of a lethal dose the hind legs appeared to be paralyzed and the fore and mid legs moved rapidly, although there was no overt hyperexcitation. This phenomenon of quick death was also observed in German cockroaches that were treated through topical application (3B is more toxic to German than to American cockroaches). At 125 µg/insect, 80% (8/10) of German cockroaches were knocked down in 2 to 3 hours and died within 24 hours (dose was 125 µg 3B per insect with 0.4 µl acetone).

The above data support the observation that site of application gives varying degrees of toxicity. For further confirmation, 1 mg 3B in 20 ml acetone was applied to small jars and all surfaces were covered. One hour after the acetone had completely evaporated, 5 American cockroaches were introduced to each jar. Control jars were treated exactly as above but with 20 ml acetone only. All cockroaches died within 10 to 30 minutes in the jars containing 3B. None died in the control jars. Some insects (3/5) showed hyperactivity within 1 to 3 minutes after exposure. At 8 minutes, hind leg paralysis was observed. These "walk across" data are consistent with the previous study in which a rapid death was observed when 3B was given to the ventral sternum region rather than the abdomen. The fact that the toxicants might penetrate faster through the legs (no chitin layer as in the body) support the notion that the permeability/penetration of 3B plays a key role in its toxicity (Table 3).

Table 3: Time-course effect of 3B (1 mg/jar) on American cockroaches exposed to pre-treated surface one hour after 3-B application.*

| | <u>Time (min.)</u> | <u>Mortality</u> |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| | 10 | 3/5 |
| 5 | 15 | 3/5 |
| | 20 | 4/5 |
| | 30 | 5/5 |

*No death in insects exposed to surface treated with acetone alone.

Based on these data, the same treated jars were used for a residual study. In this experiment, American cockroaches were transferred to the treated and control jars at different times from the point in time at which acetone evaporated, i.e., 24, 48, 96, 72 hours and 7 days. Interestingly, all insects died after being exposed to treated jars, even 7 days after 3B application. However, it took longer for the roaches to die in proportion to the length of time from initial 3B application to the jar. Some toxic signs were observed in all cases after exposure. Further, when the same experiment was repeated with German cockroaches, greater toxic effects and more rapid effects were observed. It appears that some degradation occurs in toxic effects with time (Table 4).

Table 4: Effect of 3-B (1 mg/jar) when applied to surfaces on American cockroaches exposed to these surfaces at different times after surface treatment.

| | <u>Time elapsed after 3-B application (days)</u> | <u>Time required to kill 100% of insects (days)</u> |
|----|--|---|
| | 1 | 1 |
| 25 | 2 | 3 |
| | 3 | 6 |
| | 5 | 8 |
| | 7* | 10 (6/10 died) |

*Only 6 insects died when 10 cockroaches were exposed to pretreated jars 7 days after 3-B application.

The toxic effects shown in Table 4 could be protracted by combining oils with different characteristics. Eugenol, one of the ingredients of 3-B, was dissolved in galaxolide, a perfume oil that imparted longer lasting properties related to evaporation and oxidation to the pesticide properties of eugenol. Mixtures having 30%-60% galaxolide and 40%-70% eugenol by weight have been effective. As an example, eugenol and galaxolide were mixed in equal parts, 1 mg

each, in 10 ml of acetone and agitated vigorously for two minutes and then applied (1 mg of mixture/jar) as above to small jars and all surfaces covered. The data of this example

(Table 5) show that the lethal effect of the mixture was extended and enhanced.

Table 5

| 5 | Time elapsed after eugenol/galoxolide* application (weeks) | Time required to kill 100% of insects (days) |
|----|--|--|
| | 1 | 1 |
| | 2 | 1 |
| 10 | 3 | 1 |
| | 4 | 1 |

*1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8-hexahydro-4,6,6, 7, 8, 8-hexamethyl-cyclopenta-gamma-2-benzopyran

Cockroach abdominal nerve cord showed the second highest uptake of octopamine of all tissues studied [J. Neurochem 54 479-489 (1990)]. The high efficacy of the chemicals of the present invention in the "walk across" study is attributed to the high concentration of octopamine receptors on the ventral nerve cord in close proximity to the hind legs.

Since the toxic signs produced by 3B did not indicate cholinergic action patterns, other major possibilities such as GABA receptor, octopamine receptor/biogenic amine binding, $[Ca^{2+}]$, or mitochondrial respiratory poison were considered:

1. GABA receptor-chloride channel study: This site of action is known to be one of the major action sites for a number of insecticides. When the action of 3B was tested, 3H-EBOB ($[^3H]$ n-propyl bicyclo ortho benzoate) and 35S-TBPS (bicyclo phosphorous esters) were used. The former ligand was used based on the findings that EBOB has been shown to be both a highly toxic and high affinity radioligand for the GABA-receptor convulsant binding site in insects. It also shows identical or overlapping binding sites with seven classes of insecticides: trioxabicyclooctanes, dithianes, silatranes, lindane, toxaphen, cyclodienes and picrotoxinin. The TBPS has been hindered by poor toxicological relevance and binding affinity in insects. Both radioligands were used in this study for comparison. As shown in Table 6, 3B induced no antagonistic action on the binding affinity of 3H-EBOB or 35S-TBPS at concentrations of 3B ranging from 10 μ M to 10 NM. Only at 100 BM was a significant effect seen. However, at such a high concentration (100 μ M), the specificity for the site of action is unlikely. In contrast, heptachlorepoide alone and a mixture of Endosulfan I (60%) and Endosulfan II (40%) as a positive standard were highly active even at 10 Nm. These data indicate that this assay system

works poorly with 3B, and that the lack of its action is due to its inaccessibility to the GABA receptor site. The fact that the cyclodiene resistant London strain showed cross-resistance to 3B supports the above data and rules out GABA receptor as the target or site of action for 3B.

Table 6: Effect of 3B on GABA-receptor binding.

| 5 | dpm per 200 μ g synaptosomal membrane protein ($X \pm SD$) | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------|----------------|
| | Tested Concentration μ M | 3 H-EBOB | 35 S-TBPS |
| 3 -B | | | |
| 10 | 0 | 2558 \pm 159 | 3361 \pm 297 |
| | 0.01 | 2069 \pm 98 | 2991 \pm 101 |
| | 0.10 | 2069 \pm 198 | 2939 \pm 111 |
| | 1.0 | 2088 \pm 76 | 2917 \pm 85 |
| | 10 | 2111 \pm 151 | 3001 \pm 173 |
| | 100 | 2109 \pm 88 | 2985 \pm 203 |
| Endosulfan Mix | | | |
| 15 | μ M | | |
| | 0 | 2558 \pm 159 | 3361 \pm 297 |
| | 0.01 | 1886 \pm 71 | 2477 \pm 162 |
| | 0.1 | 1009 \pm 83 | 1358 \pm 101 |
| | 1.0 | 350 \pm 35 | 552 \pm 43 |
| | 10 | 255 \pm 29 | 360 \pm 15 |
| 20 | 100 | 241 \pm 18 | 285 \pm 11 |
| Hepatachlorepoide | | | |
| 25 | μ M | | |
| | 0.001 | 2010 \pm 91 | 2470 \pm 188 |
| | 0.01 | 1583 \pm 77 | 2000 \pm 75 |
| | 0.10 | 1221 \pm 63 | 1699 \pm 109 |
| | 1.0 | 1142 \pm 85 | 1493 \pm 99 |
| | 10 | 591 \pm 41 | 685 \pm 66 |
| Unlabeled Ligand | | | |
| 30 | μ M | | |
| | 0.001 | 499 \pm 34 | 533 \pm 25 |
| | 0.01 | 346 \pm 29 | 381 \pm 17 |
| | 0.10 | 206 \pm 15 | 211 \pm 19 |
| 35 | Control value (solvent alone) was 2558 \pm 159 X 3361 \pm 297 for EBOB X TBPS, respectively. | | |

2. Octopamine receptor/biogenic amine binding site: Biogenic amines are known to carry out a number of physiological functions through their specific receptors in insects. The octopamine receptor is the most dominant biogenic amine receptor in insects. Certain acaricides, such as chlordimeform, are known to act on octopamine receptors, causing a variety of symptoms, including behavioral changes. When 3B was incubated directly with a homogenate of the nerve cord of American cockroaches, a significant increase in cylical AMP (camp) was found at a dosage of 1 μ M. The chemical octopamine was used as a positive control and induced a significant increase in camp at 1 μ M. Additional evidence that octopamine is the main site of action of 3B is that in co-treatment of 3B and octopamine, 3B abolished the octopamine-induced increase in camp.

To confirm that 3B is an octopamine receptor toxicant, two important biomarkers were measured: heart beats/30 seconds and camp - dependent protein kinase (PKA) activity. These two are considered particularly important in identifying octopamine receptor activity as the cockroach heart has been shown to have a high concentration of octopamine receptors. When a 200 μ g/insect concentration of 3B was applied to the sternum region of the alive and intact American cockroach, a significant increase was seen in heart beats/30 seconds and this was accompanied with an increase in camp. As before, higher concentrations of 3B resulted in a decrease in heart beats (Table 7).

Table 7: Effect of 3-B on American cockroach heart beats/30 seconds.

| Tested Doses, μ g | Before Treatment | 30 Min. After Treatment |
|---|------------------|-------------------------|
| control | 55 \pm 1.9 | 55 \pm 3.2 |
| 200 | 55 \pm 2.1 | 71 \pm 4.5 |
| 300 | 58 \pm 0.81 | 67 \pm 1.63 |
| 600 | 57 \pm 0.47 | 41 \pm 2.4 |
| 900 | 53 \pm 1.9 | 38 \pm 2.8 |
| octopamine (20 μ) | 54 \pm 2.1 | 75 \pm 3.6 |
| chlordimeform (20 μ) (positive control) | 51 \pm 1.4 | 69 \pm 2.5 |

In addition, when 3B was incubated with synaptosomal preparation from American cockroach heads, a significant increase in PKA activity was found, which is consistent with the above conclusion (Table 7).

Table 8: In Vivo effect to 3-B (200 μ g/roach)
on the activity of PKA in synaptosomal
membrane of American cockroaches.

| | dpm/1 nmol of Kemptide/5 min. X \pm SD |
|---------|---|
| Control | 1753 \pm 57 |
| 3-B | 4008 \pm 201 |

3. Possible role of $[Ca^{2+}]$: Because of the locomotive difficulties noticed among cockroaches treated with 3B at the ventral sternum region, it was postulated that increases in intramuscular levels of Ca^{2+} could be involved in the contractions of hind legs. For this purpose, mammalian cell line PC12 rat chromaffin adrenal cells was used. This cell line is known to mimic neuronal cells, particularly catecholaminergic neurons and has been used as a model for Ca^{2+} induced presynaptic transmitter release phenomena. As shown in FIG. 1 when 3B was added at 100 μ M to these cells (at A), there was no change in intracellular free Ca^{2+} . $[Ca^{2+}]$ concentration inside PC12 cells was found using spectrofluorometric measurements with Fura 2/AM (a cell penetrating fluorescence probe for free Ca^{2+}). A standard positive control, thapsigargin clearly increased the $[Ca^{2+}]$ (at B) even at 500 Nm. Also, 10 μ M ionomycin, a Ca^{2+} -ionophore (at C) produced the expected increase of Ca^{2+} entry. These results showed that 3B shows no ability to regulate any type of calcium homeostasis in mammalian cells.

The effect of the chemicals of the present invention on the rat brain tissue cells was as follows where cyclical AMP generation is measured as dpm/mg protein

| | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------|
| | control | 5395 \pm 43 |
| | 3-B | 5411 \pm 391 |
| | terpineol | 5399 \pm 219 |
| | eugenol | 5461 \pm 488 |
| | phenyl ethyl alcohol | 5499 \pm 415 |

Thus, no change was produced in the neurotransmission system of a mammal. These data confirm the lack of neurotoxicity of these essential oils in mammals.

4. Mitochondrial/respiratory poison: Another possible mode of action is that of mitochondrial or respiratory poisoning. It has been observed that all mitochondrial poisons induce hyperactivity at some point in their action. However, when American cockroaches were treated with a topical application of 3B, no hyperactivity or hyper excitation was observed at any stage of poisoning at all concentrations used. On the other hand, when American cockroaches were exposed to pre-coated jars with 1 mg of a 60% solution of 3B, the insects showed hyper

excitation. These data suggest that the mode of entry is a determining factor in the mode of action of these essential oils. These observations support the idea that 3B is not a type of poison that attacks the Na^+ channel as a main target. The fact that the Kdr-resistant strain (with a mutated Na^+ channel making it insensitive to DDT and pyrethroids) did not show cross-resistance to 3B also supports this diagnosis.

Under the above circumstances, where all of the known major sites of action for insecticides were found to be insensitive to 3B, except the antagonistic effect on the octopamine receptor, the possibility was considered that the mode of action of this group of chemicals is totally novel.

It was noted that the toxicity of 3B varies according to the site of application, at least in the case of the American cockroach. Such an observation indicates that 3B is likely to be not so systemic in action, and if one site produces a high toxicity, its target is likely to be located very close to that site of application. In view of the locomotive difficulty observed in American cockroaches treated at the central sternum, it was reasoned that the thoracic ganglia could be affected. When 3B (250 mg. in 0.4 μl acetone) was injected into the thorax of an alive cockroach and its hind leg contractions were induced by an external electrical stimulus applied to the outside of the body, the ability of the leg muscles to respond to stimuli totally disappeared within one minute (FIG. 2). When 3-B was applied to the leg in isolation by directly giving electrical stimuli, no effect of 3B was found (FIG. 3). These data suggest that the effect of 3B is on the nervous system and not on the muscles. Control tests using acetone(0.4 μl) without any 3-B showed no effects (FIGS. 4 and 5). This possibility was further tested using the 6th abdominal ganglion and studying transmission of signals from the mechanoreceptors of the cerci generated by air puffing. For this purpose, the abdominal cavity was opened, exposing the entire abdominal nerve cord. A suspension solution of 3B in 200 μl insect saline was directly applied to the entire abdominal nerve cord. The results were drastic, producing complete blockage of transmission at 250-500 PPM within 5 minutes from the time of application (FIG. 6). Even at 10 PPM the blocking effect of 3B was apparent, producing visible effects in 15 minutes. These results clearly indicate that 3B is a nonsystemic nerve blocker.

A further study was conducted on the cockroach to determine the effect of other chemicals of the present invention on the heart rate of the insects. The experiment conditions were as previously described in applying 300 μg of the respective chemical to the entire abdominal nerve cord. Each insect group was comprised of three individuals. All heart rates were observed and counts were recorded three times for each individual, i.e., nine counts before

introduction of the chemical, and nine counts 30 minutes after application of approximately 300 μg of chemical. The data from these heart beat tests agreed with the previously described "walk-across" test. The following chemicals showed measurable change in heart rate thirty (30) minutes after application of the chemical: terpineol, eugenol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, benzyl acetate and benzyl alcohol.

Also the following mixtures showed measurable change in heart rate: terpineol with eugenol, terpineol with phenyl ethyl alcohol and eugenol with phenyl ethyl alcohol.

The toxicity of the individual chemicals was also determined by topical application to early 4th instar Asian armyworms (*Spodoptera litura*) (15-20 mg live wt) and measurement after 24 hours (Table 9).

Table 9: Toxicity of chemicals of the present invention.

| | <u>Compound</u> | <u>95% confidence ($\mu\text{g}/\text{larva}$)</u> | <u>95% confidence interval</u> | <u>LD90 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{larva}$)</u> | <u>95% confidence interval</u> |
|----|---------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 15 | α -terpineol | 156.0 | 148.7-163.7 | 206.4 | 190.4-249.9 |
| | Eugenol | 157.7 | 149.9-165.8 | 213.0 | 194.8-263.3 |
| | cinnamic alcohol | LD50>250 | | | |
| 20 | (+)-terpinen-4-ol | 130.4 | 121.8-139.5 | 205.8 | 180.2-283.8 |
| | (-)-terpinen-4-ol | 122.9 | 108.1-139.7 | 276.0 | 202.4-583.9 |
| | carvacrol | 42.7 | 37.7-48.3 | 73.8 | 55.7 - 142.0 |
| 25 | D-pulegone | 51.6 | 49.0- 54.4 | 69.7 | 62.3 - 91.3 |
| | t-anethole | 65.5 | 61.7 - 69.6 | 98.8 | 88.4 - 129.1 |
| | thymol | 25.5 | 22.9 - 28.3 | 46.8 | 38.5 - 74.5 |
| | citronellal | 111.3 | 103.9 - 119.1 | 153.4 | 130.8 - 223.5 |

In establishing the LD50 dose, it was noted that all larvae treated with pulegone, even at the lowest doses tested, were almost immediately paralyzed. However, at lower doses, many or most of these larvae overcame this effect, whereas at higher doses larvae succumbed. To determine if the observed sublethal toxicity resulted in any long-term effect, subsequent growth of larvae treated at the three lowest doses (20, 31 and 49 μg per larvae) was monitored and compared this to growth of control (untreated larvae) at 72 and 100 hours after treatment (Table 10).

Table 10: Growth of larvae exposed to chemicals of the present invention.

| | <u>Control</u> | <u>20 μg/larva</u> | <u>31 μg/larva</u> | <u>49 μg/larva</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|--|--|--|
| Mortality (5) | 0 | 0 | 2 | 52 |
| Live wt. - 72 hr. | 148 mg. | 109 | 81 | 52 |
| Live wt. - 110 hr. | 363 mg. | 289 | 248 | 163 |

The results indicate that subsequent larval growth of survivors of the highest dose is dramatically retarded. More importantly, the effect is also seen (and significantly so) at the two lowest doses, which themselves produced almost no mortality. Therefore, exposure to even sublethal doses can have significant consequences for larvae.

Dry powder formulations were prepared using the chemicals of the present invention. The examples listed below are for the 3B mixture as previously described (cinnamic alcohol, eugenol and alpha terpineol). However, these examples are for illustrative purposes only and do not limit the range of active chemicals. Other mixtures and individual chemicals may also be used. Suggested mixtures are phenyl ethyl alcohol, benzyl alcohol, eugenol and alpha terpineol (3C) and benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, cinnamic alcohol and alpha terpineol (3D). The mixtures listed herein are not limiting but are typical and the present invention is not limited to these mixtures.

The procedure was to place the powder components into a 500 ml dish and apply the chemical (usually a liquid) on the powder. The powder and chemical mixed in the container were placed on an electric tumbler to dry for approximately 30 minutes. Approximately 1 cc of the resulting dry powder was applied to a Whatman No. 1 filter paper in a 9 cm Petri dish. The dust was spread evenly with a camel hair brush. A control was used which consisted only of the powder components without the chemical of the present invention.

The following compositions were prepared: (Tables 12a - 12c)

Table 12a

| | % by weight | amount | components |
|---|-------------|--------|--------------------|
| 5 | 40 | 20 gr | diatomaceous earth |
| | 20 | 10 gr | calcium carbonate |
| | 20 | 10 gr | sodium bicarbonate |
| | 10 | 5 gr | Hi-Sil 233 |
| | 10 | 5 gr | active ingredient* |

Table 12b

| | % by weight | amount | components |
|----|-------------|---------|--------------------|
| 10 | 40 | 20 gr | diatomaceous earth |
| | 23 | 11.5 gr | calcium carbonate |
| | 20 | 10 gr | sodium bicarbonate |
| | 10 | 5 gr | Hi-Sil 233 |
| 15 | 7 | 3.5 gr | active ingredient* |

Table 12c

| | % by weight | amount | components |
|----|-------------|---------|--------------------|
| 20 | 40 | 20 gr | diatomaceous earth |
| | 25 | 12.5 gr | calcium carbonate |
| | 20 | 10 gr | sodium bicarbonate |
| | 10 | 5 gr | Hi-Sil 233 |
| | 5 | 2.5 gr | active ingredient* |

*active ingredient was a mixture of the chemicals of the present invention.

The mixtures were tested by placing ten (10) common fire ants within respective Petri dishes which were then covered. The time for irreversible knockdown (KD) to occur (KT) was determined from periodic irregular observations. The insects were considered KD when they were on their back, or could be turned onto their back and could not right themselves within at least two (2) minutes. KT-50 and KT-90 (time for 50% and 90% KD respectively) were calculated by interpolation of KD between times when data was collected. The 10% mixture (Table 12a) had a KT 50% of 5 min. 50 sec. and a KT 90% of 6 min 40 sec. For the 7% mixture (Table 12b) KT 50% was 3 min. 40 sec. and KT 90% was 4 min. 40 sec. The 5% mixture (Table 12c) had KT 50% of 2 min. 33 sec. and KT 90% of 3 min. 45 sec.

The above data are examples which clearly demonstrate the effectiveness of the mixture of chemicals over concentrations ranging from 5%-10% by weight of the active ingredients. These are typical examples, but are not limiting. Concentrations as low as 0.1% by weight have

also been shown to be effective for some individual chemicals and for various mixtures of chemicals. Also much higher concentrations can be used.

As an example of a high concentration, a emulsifiable concentrate has the following formulation:

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 5 | <u>Ingredient</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>wt. %</u> |
| | 3B | active ingredient | 90.0 |
| | Sodium dodecyl benzene sulfonate | emulsifier | 6.6 |
| | Sodium C12-15 Pareth-3 sulfonate | emulsifier | 2.0 |
| | POE 20 Sorbitan Monooleate | emulsifier | 1.4 |

10 Another emulsifiable concentrate is:

| | | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | <u>Ingredient</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>wt. %</u> |
| | 3B | active ingredient | 90.0 |
| | Caster oil (40 mol EO) | emulsifier | 10.0 |

15 The concentrate is diluted with up to 50 to 70 parts of water to 1 part of concentrate to provide an effective aqueous medium. Although these examples are for the 3B and 3C mixtures, the formulation is not so limited and an emulsifiable concentrate may be prepared from any of the individual chemicals of the present invention or any combination of mixtures of the individual chemicals.

20 The emulsifiable concentrate 3B mixture was diluted in tap water and sprayed onto cabbage and bean plants to assess efficacy against Asian armyworms and two-spotted spider mites *Tetranychus urticae*) respectively. All values are based on a minimum of four doses with five replicates and ten armyworms or thirty adult and/or deutonymph mites per replicate. Values reported represent the ratios of water to formulation (i.e., dilution rate) (e.g., LD50 of 46.8 means a ratio of water to emulsifiable concentrate of 46.8:1). Mortality was assessed at 24 hours (Table 25 13).

Table 13: Mortality of emulsifiable mixture of 3-B mixture

| | | |
|----|--------------------------|---|
| | 3-day old Asian armyworm | LD50(95% C.I.) = 46.8 (44.0-49.8) LD90(95% C.I.) = 30.6(27.2-40.7) |
| 30 | 5-day old Asian armyworm | LD50(95% C.I.) = 53.0(49.6-56.7) LD90(95% C.I.) = 33.7(29.7-45.6) |
| | two-spotted spider mite | LD50(95% C.I.) = 82.3(76.5-88.5) LD90(95% C.I.) = 55.9(49.3-75.5) |

The diluted emulsifiable concentrate 3B formulation shows good efficacy against both ages of armyworms, and even better efficacy against spider mites. Five-day old armyworms are approximately the same size as mature (last instar) diamondback moth larvae, a potential target species. Also of importance, it was observed that sublethal concentrations clearly deter feeding and therefore plant damage. At a dilution of 50:1, 60:1 and 70:1, larval mortality is only 64%, 42% and 12% respectively. However, there is minimal feeding damage from surviving larvae. As shown in FIG. 7, discs of cabbage plant leaves with 3-B emulsifiable concentrate diluted 50:1, 60:1 and 70:1 have areas consumed (ac) after 24 hours of less than 5%-30% as compared to a control (without 3-B) of greater than 80% area consumed. Another example of a high concentration is a wettable powder having the following formulation:

| | <u>Ingredient</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>wt. %</u> |
|----|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | 3B | active ingredient | 50.0 |
| | Silica, hydrated, amorphous | absorbent | 41.5 |
| | Sodium alkyl naphthalene sulfonate | dispersant | 3.0 |
| 15 | Sodium dioctyl sulfosuccinate | wetting agent | 0.5 |
| | Sodium dodecyl benzene sulfonate | emulsifier | 5.0 |

One part of this powder is mixed With up to 30-50 parts of water to provide an effective pesticide. This example is for the 3B mixture but is not limited and may be prepared with any of the individual chemicals of the present invention or any combination of mixtures of the individual chemicals.

A waterproof dust may be prepared using any of the individual chemicals or a mixture of any of the chemicals of the present invention. The following formulation is representative in which the mixture 3C is equal parts by weight of benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol and terpeneol:

| | <u>Ingredient</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>wt. %</u> |
|----|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 25 | 3C | active ingredient | 5.0 |
| | Diatomaceous earth | bulking agent | 75.0 |
| | Hydrophobic silica | absorbent | 20.0 |

The following formulations represent two ready to use sprays representative of mixtures 3B and 3C but may be used for other mixtures and for individual chemicals of the present invention:

| | <u>Ingredient</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>wt. %</u> |
|---|--|-------------------|--------------|
| | 3B | active ingredient | 5.0 |
| | Caster oil (40 mol EO) | emulsifier | 2.7 |
| | POE 20 Sorbitan Monooleate | emulsifier | 0.6 |
| 5 | Isopropylamine alkyl benzene sulfonate | emulsifier | 1.7 |
| | Water | diluent | 90.0 |

| | <u>Ingredient</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>wt. %</u> |
|----|--|-------------------|--------------|
| | 3C | active ingredient | 5.0 |
| 10 | Caster oil (40 mol EO) | emulsifier | 2.7 |
| | POE 20 Sorbitan Monooleate | emulsifier | 0.6 |
| | Isopropylamine alkyl benzene sulfonate | emulsifier | 1.7 |
| | Water | diluent | 90.0 |

15 The individual chemicals of the present invention and mixtures may also be used as an aerosol spray. While not limited thereto, the following formulation is typical:

| | <u>Ingredient</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>wt. %</u> |
|----|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | 3C | active ingredient | 5.0 |
| | Propanol | solubilizing agent | 1.5 |
| 20 | Carbon dioxide | propellant | 3.5 |
| | Isoparaffinic hydrocarbon | solvent | 90.0 |

A pesticidal shampoo has the following composition where the active ingredient is an individual chemical of the present invention or mixture of chemicals:

| | <u>Ingredient</u> | <u>wt. %</u> |
|----|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 25 | Active ingredient | 0.5 - 10.0 |
| | Sequestrant for hard water | 0.5 - 3.0 |
| | Emulsifier(s) | 1.0 - 5.0 |
| | Thickener(s) | 0.5 - 5.0 |
| | Foam stabilizer | 0.5 - 2.0 |
| 30 | Detergent | 5.0 - 20.0 |
| | Buffer | 0.1 - 2.0 (to required ph) |
| | Dye/colorant | 0.01 |
| | Preservative | 0.01 - 1.0 |
| | Deionized water | to 100% |

Gel formulations have been prepared as follows:

Blue Color

| | | |
|---|--------------|---------------------------|
| | 3.00% | Active ingredient |
| | 15.00% | Ethanol |
| 5 | 0.42% | Carbopol 934 |
| | 0-.42% - 10% | Sodium hydroxide in water |
| | 81.16% | Water |

Yellow Color

| | | |
|----|-------------|---------------------------|
| | 3.00% | Active ingredient |
| 10 | 30.00% | Ethanol |
| | 0.42% | Carbopol 934 |
| | 0.42% - 10% | Sodium hydroxide in water |
| | 66.16% | Water |

15 The active ingredient is an individual chemical of the present invention or a mixture thereof.

A dry powder formulation consists of mixing an alkaline earth metal carbonate, such as calcium carbonate, an alkali metal bicarbonate, such as sodium bicarbonate, the active ingredient, an absorbent material, such as diatomaceous earth and a bulk agent such as HiSil 233.

20 The relative concentrations of the mixture are preferably about 20%-30% alkaline earth metal carbonate, 15%-25% alkali metal bicarbonate, 0.1%-5% active ingredient, 30%-50% absorbent material and 5%-15% bulk agent (all by weight). The granules of powder preferably are ground to a size under 100 microns.

The active ingredients may be individual chemicals of the present invention or mixtures thereof.

25 In all of the above recited examples, it may be desirable to add a trace amount (less than 2%) of a material to provide a pleasant odor, not only for aesthetic reasons but also to identify the areas of a building which have been treated. The pleasant odor may be vanilla, cinnamon, floral or other odors which are acceptable to consumers. The pleasant odors are not limited to the examples given herein.

30 Obviously, many modifications may be made without departing from the basic spirit of the present invention. Accordingly, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that within the scope of the appended claims, the invention may be practiced other than has been specifically described herein.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of killing invertebrates including insects, arachnids and larvae thereof comprising the steps of:
 - preparing a mixture of a carrier with an affector agent which interferes with the neurotransmitters of the octopamine receptor site in insects, arachnids and larvae thereof,
 - applying the mixture to insects, arachnids, larvae, and their habitat,
 - wherein the affector agent interacts with octopamine receptor sites in the insects, arachnids and larvae and interferes with neurotransmission in the invertebrate but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the affector agent is a chemical having the structure of a six member carbon ring, the carbon ring having substituted thereon at least one oxygenated functional group.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the affector agent is selected from the group consisting of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, eugenol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, alpha terpineol, thymol and mixtures thereof.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the mixture is selected from a group consisting of cinnamic alcohol, eugenol with alpha terpineol; benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, eugenol with alpha terpineol; and benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, cinnamic alcohol with alpha terpineol.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the range of weight percent of the mixture is cinnamic alcohol 20%-35%, eugenol 10%-50% and alpha terpineol 10%-50%.
6. The method of claim 2, further comprising adding to the mixture a material having a pleasant odor.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the carrier is water having at least one emulsifier therein.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the carrier is a wettable powder.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the carrier is a waterproof dust.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the carrier is an aerosol.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein the carrier is a dry
12. A method of killing insects, arachnids and larvae thereof comprising the steps of: preparing a blend of cinnamic alcohol, eugenol and alpha terpineol, mixing the blend with a carrier to produce a uniform mixture, applying the mixture to insects, arachnids and larvae

thereof and their habitat, wherein the blend interacts with octopamine receptor sites in the insect, arachnid and larvae thereof and interferes with neurotransmission in the insect and arachnid and their larvae but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the range of weight percent of the blend is cinnamic alcohol 20%-35%, eugenol 10%-50% and alpha terpineol 10%-50%.

14. A pesticide for invertebrates including insects, arachnids and larvae thereof comprising:

an affector agent having a six member carbon ring, the carbon ring having substituted thereon at least one oxygenated functional group, the affector agent blocking octopamine receptor sites in insects, arachnids and larvae thereof,

a carrier in which the affector agent is intimately mixed,

wherein exposure of insects, arachnids and larvae thereof to the affector agent produces a blocking of octopamine receptor sites in the invertebrates to interfere with neurotransmission and the death of the exposed invertebrate.

15. The pesticide of claim 14, wherein the affector agent is selected from the group consisting of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, eugenol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, alpha terpineol, thymol and mixtures thereof.

16. The pesticide of claim 15, wherein the mixture is selected from a group consisting of cinnamic alcohol, eugenol with alpha terpineol; benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, eugenol with alpha terpineol; and benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, cinnamic alcohol with alpha terpineol.

17. The pesticide of claim 16, wherein the range of weight percent of the mixture is cinnamic alcohol 20%-35%, eugenol 10%-50% and alpha terpineol 10%-50%.

18. A method of killing insects, arachnids and larvae thereof, comprising the steps of:

preparing a mixture of a carrier and a chemical derived from a plant essential oil, the chemical having at least one oxygenated functional group therein, the chemical having octopamine receptor site inhibitory activity,

applying the mixture to insects, arachnids and larvae thereof and their habitat, wherein the chemical interacts with an octopamine receptor site in the insects, arachnids and larvae thereof and interferes with neurotransmission in the insect, arachnid and larvae thereof but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the chemical is selected from the group consisting of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, citronellal, eugenol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, alpha-terpineol, thymol and mixtures thereof.

20. A method of controlling insects, arachnids and larvae thereof, comprising the steps of:
5 preparing an emulsion of an affector agent which blocks octopamine receptor sites in insects, arachnids and larvae thereof,

applying the mixture to insects, arachnids and larvae thereof and their habitat,

wherein the affector agent disrupts neurotransmission at octopamine receptor site in the insects, arachnids and larvae thereof and deters the feeding of the insects, arachnids and
10 larvae thereof but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the affector agent is a chemical having the structure of a six member carbon ring, the carbon ring having substituted thereon at least one oxygenated functional group.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the affector agent is selected from the group
15 consisting of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, eugenol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, alpha-terpineol, thymol and mixtures thereof.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the mixture is selected from a group consisting of cinnamic alcohol, eugenol with alpha-terpineol; benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, eugenol with alpha-terpineol; and benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, cinnamic alcohol
20 with alpha-terpineol.

24. A method of controlling insects, arachnids and larvae thereof comprising the steps of:
applying an affector agent to larvae of the insects and arachnids and their habitat, the affector agent retarding the growth of the larvae,

wherein the affector agent interacts with octopamine receptor sites in the larvae of the
25 insects and arachnids and interferes with neurotransmission in the larvae but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein the affector agent is a chemical having the structure of a six member carbon ring, the carbon ring having substituted thereon at least one oxygenated functional group.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the affector agent is selected from the group
30 consisting of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, eugenol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, alpha-terpineol, thymol and mixtures thereof.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the mixture is selected from a group consisting of cinnamic alcohol, eugenol with alpha terpineol; benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, eugenol with alpha terpineol; and benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, cinnamic alcohol with alpha terpineol.

5 28. A method of killing insects, arachnids and larvae thereof comprising the steps of:
 preparing a mixture of an oil with an affector agent which blocks octopamine
receptor sites in insects, arachnids and larvae thereof,
 applying the mixture to a surface in the habitat of the insects, arachnids and larvae
thereof,
10 leaving the mixture on the surface for a period up to one month,
 wherein the mixture is effective for killing the insects, arachnids and larvae
thereof over the period by the affector agent interacting with octopamine receptor sites and
interfering with the neurotransmission in the insects, arachnids and larvae thereof.

15 29. The method of claim 28, wherein the oil is galoxolide and the blocking agent is
eugenol.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the galoxolide is approximately 30%-60% by
weight and the eugenol is approximately 40%-70% by weight.

31. The method of claim 28, wherein approximately 1 mg of the mixture is dispersed over
an area of approximately 10 sq. cm.

20 32. A method of killing insects, arachnids and larvae thereof, comprising the steps of:
 preparing a mixture of a carrier and a naturally occurring organic chemical having
at least six carbon atoms, the chemical having octopamine receptor site inhibitory activity,
 applying the mixture to insects, arachnids and larvae thereof and their habitat,
 wherein the chemical interacts with octopamine receptor site in the insects,
25 arachnids and larvae thereof and interferes with neurotransmission in the insect, arachnid and
larvae thereof but does not affect mammals, fish and fowl.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein the chemical is selected from the group consisting
of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, citronellal, eugenol,
phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, alpha terpineol, thymol and mixtures thereof.

30 34. The method of claim 33, wherein the mixture of chemicals is selected from a group
consisting of cinnamic alcohol, eugenol with alpha terpineol; benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl
alcohol, eugenol with alpha terpineol; and benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol,
cinnamic alcohol with alpha terpineol.

35. A pesticide comprising a carrier and an affector agent, the affector agent interfering with neurotransmission in insects, arachnids and larvae thereof, the affector agent being selected from the group consisting of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, citronellal, eugenol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, alpha-terpineol, thymol, and mixtures thereof, wherein the carrier is approximately 95%-99.9% byweight and the affector agent is approximately 0.1%-5% by weight.

36. A pesticide comprising a carrier and a chemical compound, the chemical compound being a component of a plant essential oil, having at least one oxygenated functional group therein, the chemical component interfering with neurotransmission in insects, arachnids and larvae thereof; the chemical compound being selected from the group consisting of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, citronellal, eugenol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, alpha-terpineol, thymol, and mixtures thereof.

37. A pesticide comprising a carrier and an affector agent, the affect or agent interfering with neurotransmission in insects, arachnids and larvae thereof, the affector agent being a naturally occurring chemical having at least six carbon atoms, the affector agent being selected from the group consisting of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, citronellal, eugenol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, alpha-terpineol, thymol, and mixtures thereof.

38. A pesticide comprising a carrier and an affector agent, the affector agent interfering with neurotransmission in insects, arachnids and larvae thereof, the affector agent being a monoterpene having ten carbon atoms.

39. The pesticide of claim 37, wherein the affector agent is selected from the group consisting of anethole, carvacrol, citronellal, eugenol, pulegone, alpha-terpineol, thymol, and mixtures thereof.

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 30 October 1998 (30.10.98);
original claims 23-27,32-34 cancelled; original claims 1-3,6,12,
18-22,28-31 amended; remaining claims unchanged (4 pages)]

1. A method for interacting with the neurotransmitters of octopamine receptor sites in invertebrates and/or larvae thereof, to thereby kill and/or control the invertebrates and/or larvae thereof without any substantial affect on mammals, fish or fowl, the method comprising:

- 5 selecting an effector agent based on the ability of the effector agent to interfere with the neurotransmitters of the octopamine receptor sites in the invertebrates and/or larvae thereof, the effector agent comprising a compound having a six member carbon ring structure, with the carbon ring being substituted by at least one oxygenated functional group;
- preparing a mixture of a carrier with said effector agent which interferes with the
- 10 neurotransmitters of the octopamine receptor sites in the invertebrates and/or larvae thereof,
- applying the mixture to the invertebrates, their larvae and/or their habitat;
- whereby the effector agent interferes with octopamine receptor sites to kill or control thereby the invertebrates and/or their larvae.

2. The method of claim 1, comprising applying the mixture to insects, army worms,

15 arachnids, larvae thereof, and/or their habitat.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the effector agent is selected from the group consisting of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, eugenol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, alpha terpineol, and mixture thereof.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising adding to the mixture a material having a

20 pleasant odor.

12. A method for killing and/or controlling invertebrates, and/or larvae thereof, the method comprising:

- preparing a blend of cinnamic alcohol, eugenol and alpha terpineol;
- mixing the blend with a carrier to produce a substantially uniform mixture; and
- 25 applying the mixture to the invertebrates.

18. A method for killing and/or controlling invertebrates and/or larvae thereof, the method comprising:

5 preparing a mixture comprising a carrier and an affector agent which is a blend selected from the group consisting of: (1) cinnamic alcohol, eugenol and alpha terpineol; (2) benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, eugenol and alpha terpineol; (3) phenyl ethyl alcohol, eugenol and alpha terpineol; and (4) benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, phenyl ethyl alcohol, cinnamic alcohol and alpha terpineol; and,

applying the mixture to the invertebrates, their larvae and/or their habitat.

19. The method of claim 3, wherein the affector agent is selected from the group consisting of anethole, benzyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, carvacrol, cinnamic alcohol, citronellal, phenyl ethyl alcohol, pulegone, and mixtures thereof.

5 20. The method according to claim 1, wherein the mixture is in the form of an emulsion.

21. The method according to claim 12, comprising applying the mixture to insects, army worms, arachnids, larvae thereof, and/or their habitat.

22. The method according to claim 18, comprising applying the mixture to insects, army worms, arachnids, larvae thereof, and/or their habitat.

28. The method according to claim 1, wherein the mixture comprises an oil.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the oil is galoxolide and the affector agent is eugenol.

5 30. The method according to claim 29, wherein the mixture comprises approximately 30%-60% by weight of galoxolide and approximately 40%-70% by weight of eugenol.

31. The method of claim 28, comprising dispersing approximately 1 mg of the mixture is over an area of approximately 10 sq. cm.

STATEMENT UNDER ARTICLE 19(1)

The changes in the claims serve to bring the claims into conformance with amended claims in corresponding U.S. Application Serial No. 08/870,560, claims 4, 5, 7-11, and 13-17 being retained without change.

As amended, the claims are believed to define inventive steps over the documents cited in the International Search Report, considered individually and when combined with any one or more of the other cited documents which fail to disclose or otherwise to make obvious the invention as defined in the respective independent and, with greater particularity, in the subordinate claims considered in the context of the respective independent claims.

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

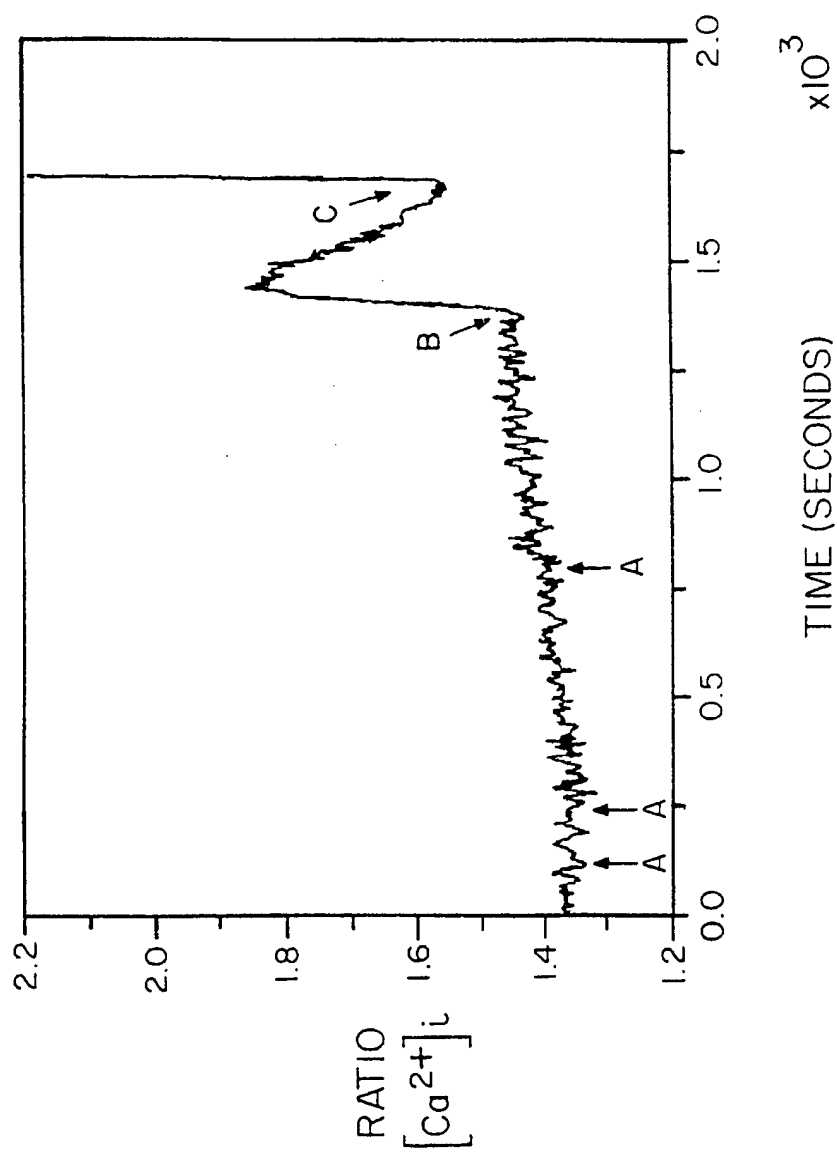


FIG. 1

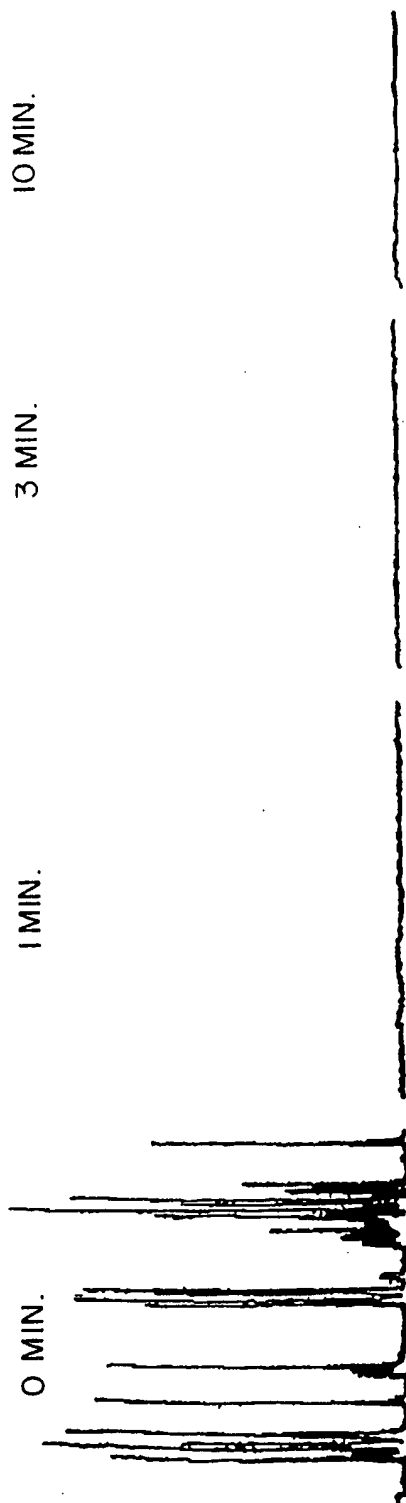


FIG. 2



FIG. 3

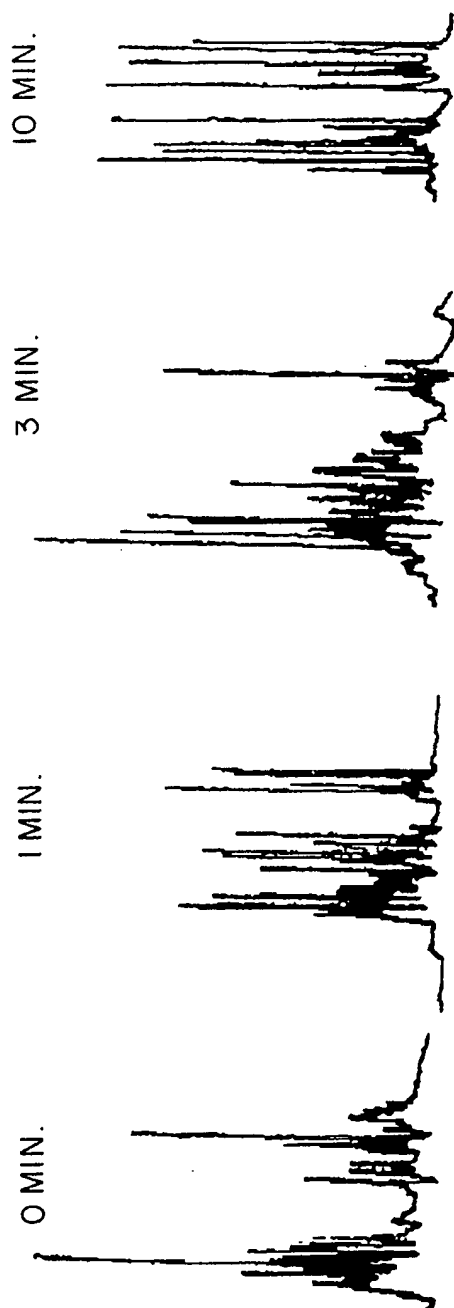


FIG. 4

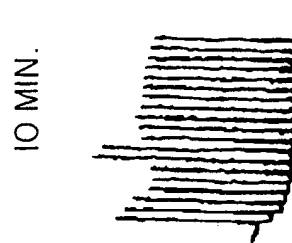
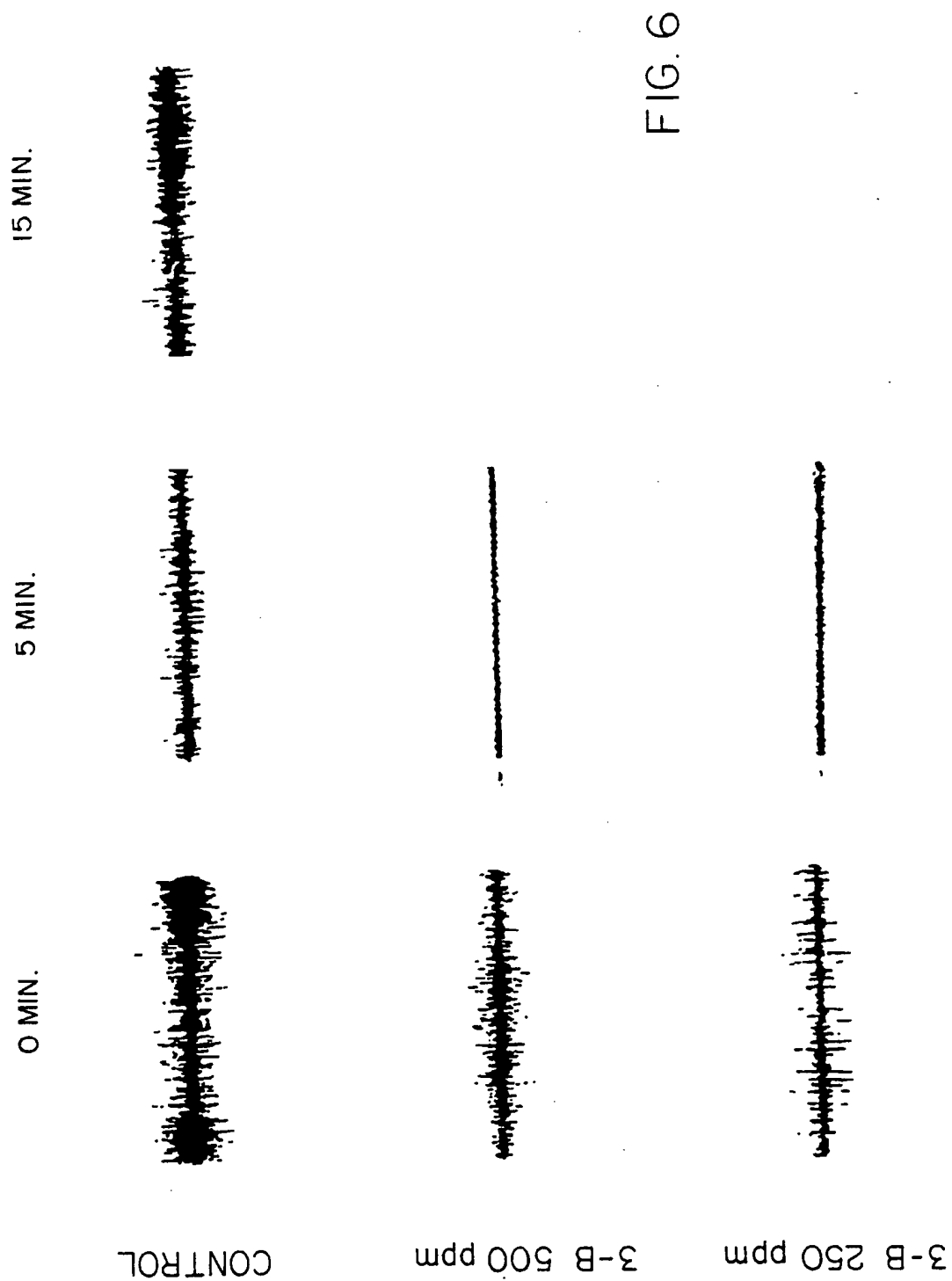
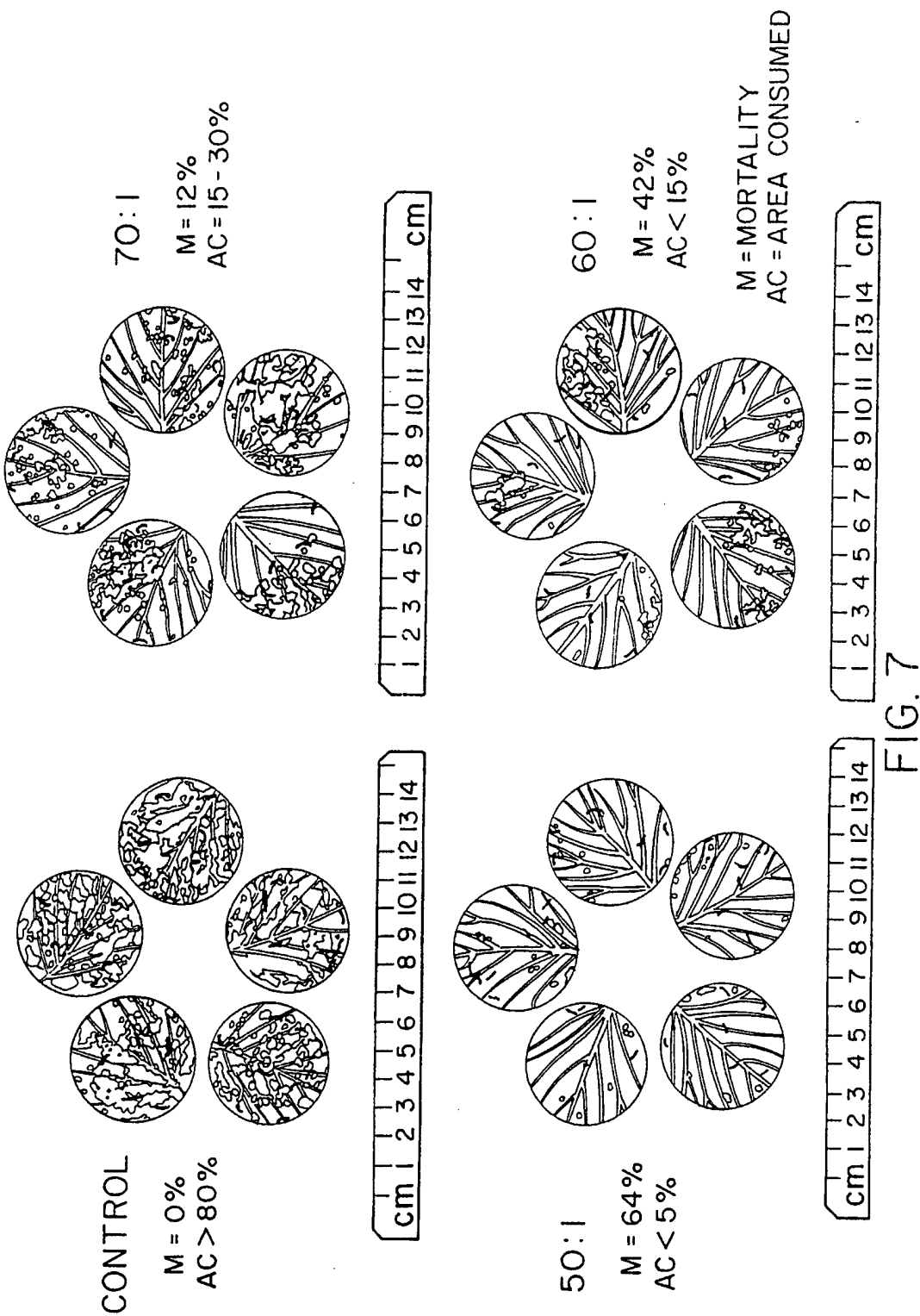


FIG. 5





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International Application No
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| A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER | | |
| IPC 6 | A01N61/00 A01N37/02 A01N35/06 A01N31/16 A01N31/14 A01N31/08 A01N31/06 A01N31/04 //(A01N31/16,43:16,31:04), (A01N31/04,37:02,31:04) | |
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC | | |
| B. FIELDS SEARCHED | | |
| Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 6 A01N | | |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched | | |
| Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) | | |
| C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex. | | |
| * Special categories of cited documents : | | |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search 19 August 1998 | | Date of mailing of the international search report 01/09/1998 |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 | | Authorized officer Lamers, W |

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